

Docket No. AUS9-2000-0316-US1

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

5 1. A method of managing input/output drawers within a data processing system, the method comprising:
assigning a unique location identifier to each of a plurality of input/output drawers; and
storing the unique location identifier in memory;
10 wherein the unique location identifier is used by the operating system to identify the plurality of input/output drawers regardless of how the input/output drawers are interconnected by cables.

15 2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
responsive to a determination that a new input/output drawer has been added to the data processing system, assigning a new unique location identifier to the
20 new input/output drawer, wherein the new unique location identifier is different from any of the unique location identifiers previously assigned, such that each of the plurality of input/output drawers maintains the same unique location identifier.

25 3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the method is performed in a service processor.

4. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the unique
30 location identifier and the new unique location identifier are stored in a device tree.

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5. The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the unique location identifier comprise device nodes and location codes.

6. The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the device tree is stored in a system memory.

updating a device tree to reflect a configuration of the data processing system after inclusion of the new input/output drawer.

first instructions for assigning a unique location identifier to each of a plurality of input/output drawers; and

wherein the unique location identifier is used by the operating system to identify the plurality of input/output drawers regardless of how the input/output drawers are interconnected by cables.

third instructions, responsive to a determination

that a new input/output drawer has been added to the data processing system, for assigning a new unique location identifier to the new input/output drawer, wherein the new unique location identifier is different from any of the unique location identifiers previously assigned, such that each of the plurality of input/output drawers maintains the same unique location identifier.

11. The computer program product as recited in claim 9,
wherein the unique location identifier and the new unique
15 location identifier are stored in a device tree.

13. The computer program product as recited in claim 11,
wherein the device tree is stored in a system memory.

fourth instructions for updating a device tree to reflect a configuration of the data processing system after inclusion of the new input/output drawer.

30 15. A system for managing input/output drawers within a
data processing system, the system comprising:

first means for assigning a unique location identifier to each of a plurality of input/output drawers; and

wherein the unique location identifier is used by the operating system to identify the plurality of input/output drawers regardless of how the input/output drawers are interconnected by cables.

third means, responsive to a determination that a new input/output drawer has been added to the data processing system, for assigning a new unique location identifier to the new input/output drawer, wherein the new unique location identifier is different from any of the unique location identifiers previously assigned, such that each of the plurality of input/output drawers maintains the same unique location identifier.

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18. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the unique location identifier and the new unique location identifier are stored in a device tree.

30 19. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the
unique location identifier comprise device nodes and

location codes.

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fourth means for updating a device tree to reflect a configuration of the data processing system after inclusion of the new input/output drawer.